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DDI- 5209 82/1

Memorandum for: DDI

25 JUN 1982

25X1

Attached is our proposed response to the DCI. It includes comments from both SOVA and [redacted] and reflects the approach to the problem that Hans, Rae, and I worked out last October.

Thus far, the joint oil study is proceeding smoothly and on schedule, and we should be able to meet the deadline of early January. But until the Agency has its own estimate in order, we think it would be difficult to begin trying to write a Community estimate with DIA.

25X1

[redacted]

Director,

O G I

Office of Global Issues

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Executive Registry
82-2225/3

28 JUN 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : Robert M. Gates
Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Senior Review Panel Proposal for a Community Estimate of Soviet Oil Prospects [redacted] 25X1

1. Action. None; for your information only. [redacted] 25X1

2. Background. I endorse the recommendation of the Senior Review Panel (SRP) that an Intelligence Community estimate of Soviet oil prospects be initiated. I would propose, however, that action be postponed until the first quarter of 1983--by which time the DDI will have completed its own re-analysis of the Soviet oil situation (see attachment). [redacted] 25X1

3. At the present time, an interoffice project team, under the general direction of [redacted] and consisting of analysts from OGI, SOVA, and OIA, is taking a fresh look at the entire Soviet oil question. Pursuant to John McMahon's request, the team will present an internal typescript assessment by early January 1983. The final report will incorporate not only new analysis by CIA but also, where appropriate, work done by DIA, NSA, the US Geological Survey, academic experts, and private industry. Preliminary reports prepared by members of the team are sent to DIA and other interested agencies for informal review. I believe it would be premature for the Agency to table its views on Soviet oil for a Community estimate until after this project is complete. [redacted] 25X1 25X1

4. As the SRP report notes, within the Intelligence Community only CIA and DIA have mounted a significant effort on Soviet oil production. By default, these two agencies would be the principal players in any National Intelligence Estimate. Since 1980, CIA and DIA analysts have exchanged views regularly. There is now broader agreement on the basic data and analysis but still substantial disagreement over the conclusions to be drawn. The other Community members, however, have a

[redacted] 25X1

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SUBJECT: Senior Review Panel Proposal for a Community Estimate of Soviet Oil Prospects [redacted] 25X1

continuing interest in the problem and, particularly, its policy implications. Several months ago, [redacted] convened a meeting of your Economic Intelligence Committee (EIC) to review CIA's current analytic effort on Soviet oil. He plans to reconvene that committee to review the SRP report and to obtain any further guidance. We have also briefed your Military-Economic Advisory Panel (MEAP) on our program. Both the EIC and MEAP have informally expressed approval of our proposed plan of attack and schedule. [redacted] 25X1 25X1

5. On the whole, I believe that a Community estimate would be a healthy exercise. Had this been done earlier, many of the problems that have emerged over the past two years might have been avoided. [redacted] 25X1 25X1

[redacted]

Robert M. Gates

Attachment:
"Prospects for Soviet Oil in the 1980s--
Scheduled Research for 1982" [redacted] 25X1

Distribution:
Orig - Addressee and return to Originator w/att.
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1 - OGI/ED/PSA
OGI/ED/PSA [redacted] (25 Jun '82) 25X1

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